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COMMITTEE ON THE PEACEFUL
USES OF OUTER SPACE
Legal Subcommittee
Thirty-seventh session
Vienna, 23 March-3 April 1998

PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. Opening of the session.

2. Statement by the Chairman.

3. Question of review and possible revision of the Principles Relevant to the Use of Nuclear Power Sources in Outer Space.*

4. Matters relating to the definition and delimitation of outer space and to the character and utilization of the geostationary orbit, including consideration of ways and means to ensure the rational and equitable use of the geostationary orbit without prejudice to the role of the International Telecommunication Union.*

5. Review of the status of the five international legal instruments governing outer space.*

6. Other matters.

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*The General Assembly, in paragraph 4 of its resolution 52/56 of 10 December 1997, endorsed the recommendations of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space that the Legal Subcommittee, at its thirty-seventh session, taking into account the concerns of all countries, particularly those of developing countries, should continue its consideration of items 3 and 4, considering item 4 through its working group, and begin its review of the status of the five international legal instruments governing outer space. The Assembly, in paragraph 5 of the same resolution, also endorsed the recommendation of the Committee that the Legal Subcommittee should suspend consideration in its working group of the Principles Relevant to the Use of Nuclear Power Sources in Outer Space pending the results of the work in the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee, without prejudice to the possibility of reconvening its working group on that item if, in the opinion of the Legal Subcommittee, sufficient progress was made in the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee at its session in 1998 to warrant the reconvening of the working group.

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Annex

INDICATIVE SCHEDULE OF WORK

1. The General Assembly, in paragraph 8 of its resolution 52/56, endorsed the recommendations and agreements of the Committee on the Peaceful uses of Outer Space concerning the organization of work in the Legal Subcommittee. In particular, the Committee, at its fortieth session, recalled its recommendation that the Legal Subcommittee, on a permanent basis, should rotate each year the order of consideration of substantive agenda items.[a] The Committee, however, endorsed the recommendation of the Legal Subcommittee that the order of rotation should be suspended for its thirty-seventh session, in 1998, and that those items should be considered at that session in the following order: items 4, 5 and 3.

2. The Committee, at its fortieth session,[b] took note of the measures that had been adopted initially by the Legal Subcommittee at its thirty-first session, as well as additional measures agreed for future sessions of the Subcommittee in order to improve the utilization of conference services. The Committee endorsed the agreement of the Legal Subcommittee (A/AC.105/674, para. 13) that a similar organization of work would serve as the basis for organizing the work of the Subcommittee at its thirty-seventh session, including efforts to conclude the session of the Legal Subcommittee as early as practicable in accordance with paragraphs 12 (k), 13 and 14 of the report of the Subcommittee.[b]

3. The Committee, at its thirty-eighth session, agreed that the practice of allocating specific agenda items to particular meetings at a session should be ended and that, to assist in their planning, Member States would continue to be provided with an indicative schedule of work, which would be without prejudice to the actual timing of consideration of specific agenda items.[c] The Committee also agreed that agenda items should be considered consecutively and be considered closed after the list of speakers on any particular item had been exhausted and that the Chairman might propose that items could be suspended to allow additional discussion at future meetings.[d]

4. In accordance with established practice, some time in the first part of the session should be allocated for a general exchange of views. The Legal Subcommittee, at its thirty-fourth session (A/AC.105/607 and Corr.1, para. 52), recommended that delegations taking part in such a general exchange should limit their statements to views on general legal and policy issues concerning the current and future work of the Subcommittee.

5. The General Assembly, in paragraph 4 of its resolution 52/56, endorsed the recommendation of the Committee that the Legal Subcommittee, at its thirty-seventh session, should also continue its consideration of other matters, including informal consultations on specific proposals already made concerning possible new agenda items for the Subcommittee.

6. The Legal Subcommittee, at its thirty-sixth session, agreed that, at its session in 1998, less time should be allocated for the consideration of agenda item 3 than for item 4 and the new agenda item on "Review of the status of the five international legal instruments governing outer space"(A/AC.105/674, para. 15 (a)).

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[a] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-second Session, Supplement No. 20* (A/52/20, para. 175.

[b] Ibid., para. 176.

[c] Ibid., *Fiftieth Session, Supplement No. 20* (A/50/20, para. 169 (b).

[d] Ibid., para. 169 (c).

7. At the close of the afternoon session on 23 March 1998, a seminar on the new agenda item, "Review of the status of the five international legal instruments governing outer space", sponsored by the International Institute of Space Law (IISL) and the European Centre for Space Law (ECSL), will take place.

8. An indicative schedule of work is given below.

Date	*Morning*	*Afternoon*
Monday, 23 March	Opening of the session; statement by the Chairman	Definition/geostationary orbit *(IISL/ECSL Symposium)*
Tuesday, 24 March	Definition/geostationary orbit	Definition/geostationary orbit
Wednesday, 25 March	Definition/geostationary orbit	Definition/geostationary orbit
Thursday, 26 March	Definition/geostationary orbit	Other matters, open-ended informal consultations[c]
Friday, 27 March	Status of space treaties	Status of space treaties
Monday, 30 March	Status of space treaties	Status of space treaties
Tuesday, 31 March	Status of space treaties	Status of space treaties
Wednesday, 1 April	Nuclear power sources	Nuclear power sources
Thursday, 2 April	Other matters; open-ended informal consultations	Adoption of the report of the working group on definition/ geostationary orbit
Friday, 3 April	Adoption of the report of the Subcommittee	Adoption of the report of the Subcommittee

[c]See paragraph 5 above.